

THE OMAHA DAILY BEE
FOUNDED BY EDWARD ROSEWATER
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The January spring rains have evidently set in.
The Wonder of Radium—Headline. What, that it has not been cornered?

Old St. Louis is giving young Kansas City a mighty good run for that regional bank.
Another "soul mate" episode has been aired in divorce court. What will eugenics say to this?

Harry Thaw may, as the Baltimore Sun says, be a joke, but he is a mighty rich one to the lawyers.
Old Man Winter hasn't the heart to do anything but smile on this beautiful Nebraska Orange belt.

"Aviator Hamilton Dies Suddenly" says the headline. The novelty in this case being that he died in bed.
It is getting so one has to go to the "twenty years ago" column for anything like 10 below-zero weather.

No hotel or restaurant keeper, of whom we vot, has ever yet inflicted any penalties for the violation of a "no tipping" rule.
It makes a fellow feel mighty puffed up like, anyway, to receive a package of those income tax blanks through the mail.

In the light of recent events, how proud are those who belabored themselves to secure the pardon of the four slayers of Nels Landstam?
When the county treasurers come to Omaha for their convention next month they propose to discuss taxation. As if that topic were a novelty!

The map shows that Omaha is best situated to serve a wonderfully wealthy agricultural section so far as regional bank purposes are concerned.
"Police Hear of Fifty Black Hand Notes," is a headline in a St. Louis paper, which shows that naughtiness is not absolutely localized in any one community.

Omaha bankers are journeying to Lincoln today because Lincoln possesses an asset that outweighs all other considerations at present. Being the home of Mr. Bryan is a good thing once in a while.
The city commissioners are bringing forth bond propositions at a rate that promises plenty of material for debate. Omaha's needs are expanding in every direction and the people must determine how fast they wish to progress.

The contingent fee lawyers have unearthed another rich source of revenue. They are making saloon men settle suits outside of court. As long as this graft can be kept alive, we may look for a lot of legal opposition to prohibition.
The water boss finds he cannot sell bonds and buy them back again for the purpose of making another sale at his convenience. In the meantime Omaha is paying 4 1/2 per cent interest annually on half a million of money that is lying idle merely because the water boss had a chance to sell some bonds.

That Kansas City banker unconsciously let the cat out of the bag when he told Mr. McAdoo that Omaha would not suffer through being compelled to do business in Kansas City, but that Kansas City would suffer if it had to come to Omaha. It is not often that an investigator encounters such frankness, but the selfishness of the proposition is frequently in evidence.

The Unemployed.
LINGLE, Wyo., Jan. 18.—To the Editor of The Bee: I see in your issue of January 7 that there are 3,000 men out of work in Omaha and that the city is going to feed them. I don't know what kind of men they are, but if they are like the men that tramp through this country in the summer they are not worth feeding. If you city people feed them in the winter and they can't get any other help in the summer, we can't get help in the winter, and we can't afford to keep help in the winter on account of wages being so high. I think it would be a good scheme for you to ask some of the idle men to go to work on a farm for \$15 to \$20 per month and board for this winter.

The writer of this very blunt letter is a Wyoming rancher, as indicated, and he ought to know what he is talking about. It is not to be assumed that all of the idle men in Omaha—which has not as many as some other cities—or any other community are such as here described, but it would be not only interesting, but very helpful, to know just how many are. If that could be determined, the task of aiding the worthy would be simplified to some extent. There is no denying the grievous defects of our system of charity. It ought to be conducted on more economic and scientific lines.

Here is another line along which the city can help or hurt the country. As our correspondent says, lots of land is lying idle in this great, rich west simply for the want of men to work it in the planting and reaping months. The city ought to devise more ways for inducing the flossam and jetsam of its population to wend its way countryward, and that might be done to some extent by the maintenance of rockpiles and workhouses for those who refused to work at wages when given the opportunity, by making it less inviting for the loafer to hang around town. But that, of course, is not the final answer to this question.

Recall of a Carabao.
The president has decided to take no chances on a Carabao carol out in the far seas, having recalled the advancement of Rear Admiral Thomas H. Howard to the command of our Asiatic fleet. Our decorous policies in the Philippines are to be subjected to no such untoward hilarity as rose from the banquet hall in Washington that dreadful night. No telling what might happen if "Damn, damn, damn the insurrecto" came floating in from the flagship some night to the natives on shore. Old Belshazzar and his thousand lords never saw the handwriting on the wall more vividly "In the night as they revelled in the royal palace hall" than finally appeared to the festive and irreverent Carabao. Emboldened by the executive chastisement which followed, our chesty little friends, the Filipinos, very probably would resent the stationing of the chief offender as our naval commander so near to them, and that would be awful. The object lesson has been complete and impressive enough to make Carabao stock a very bearish quantity with the rising generation of naval commanders.

Is it an Administration Bill?
The explanation sent abroad that the Stanley bill for eliminating the "rule of reason" which the supreme court read into the Sherman act "is not an administration measure," taken in connection with the president's sedate peace and plenty message, might be regarded as conclusive for the fact that the original announcement of the bill was accompanied by the statement that it had Mr. Wilson's approval. Is it or is it not an administration measure?
The president's anti-trust message surely means that he favors reducing the debatable ground by distinguishing between harmless and hurtful restraint in trade and making only the latter a criminal offense. If so, it is difficult to understand how he can approve the Stanley bill, which obliterates all distinction by seeking to punish restraint "in any degree."
The administration may be expected to clarify its own position on this point. It seems very strange that one so close to the throne as Congressman Stanley should have blundered into the fathering of such a measure if it ran counter of the president's own program.

High School Politics.
If the situation respecting political squabbles among high school boys is correctly set forth in current reports, it is time for intervention. Parents, teachers and board members should nip the mischief in the bud without delay. The smartest and biggest-brained boy at school is not equal to any more than the regular course, with its legitimate extras imposed upon him, and even if he were he should not be allowed to engage in class or factional politics, which has no part whatever in the training and education of youth. If the boys are "playing politics" as represented, they must be stopped just as they were in the indulgence of the "frat" life. Their fathers and mothers and the other taxpayers are not keeping them at school to learn what will naturally come to them along the way at any time in their careers, and they have not the time to give to anything except the business for which the school exists. Let us have all the nonsense cut out.

Eugenic Law in Dispute—Headline. Such a nice, young thing, too.

Looking Backward This Day in Omaha

JANUARY 24.

Thirty Years Ago—
A long year party at the Paxton hotel furnished a social novelty, which was pronounced a perfect success in every detail. Nearly all the carriages were engaged by all the fair ones to convey their partners to the scene of the festivities.

The Mannerchoir's masquerade at Central hall provided a good time for seventy-five couples. The prizes for the best costumes were awarded to Mrs. Neaver, first; Ed Lehmer, second; Mrs. Kaufman, third.

H. K. Burkett, the undertaker, was busily engaged today in moving his stock of goods from the Millard hotel block to his store on Sixteenth street.

Charles Gratton was again the medal winner in the tournament at the roller rink.

Charles F. Neal, employed at the Union Pacific transfer and residing at Ninth and Hickory, is rejoicing over the arrival of a bouncing baby boy.

Mr. and Mrs. F. A. Schneider have been called to Ohio by the serious illness of Mrs. Schneider's mother.

C. S. Higgins is in Chicago endeavoring to make a trade with the Pullman car company for use of a patent car platform, of which Mr. Higgins is one of the patentees.

Mrs. Fannie Prinx, 1616 Dodge street, warns the public against purchasing a note in her favor for \$500, which has been lost or stolen.

George Imhoff, for some time telegraph operator and assistant ticket agent for the Milwaukee, left for the Pacific coast.

Twenty Years Ago—
C. F. Hunsinger and Miss Fannie F. Kriebe, two of Omaha's popular young people, were married at St. Mary's Magdalene's church and began householding at once at their own home, 229 South Fourteenth street.

Miss Fannie B. Hurlbut of the Columbia school asked the police to have an officer near the school every morning for a while, watch children, who had become very careless in crossing the railroad at Thirty-eighth and Jones streets.

Meers, Oliver W., Mink and John W. Doane, two of the Union Pacific receivers, arrived from the east to take up certain detailed matters with President S. H. H. Clark and not in any sense in connection with a scheme to seize control of the Union Pacific-Denver & Gulf property.

Duncan McDonald and Miss Kate Neff, Frank Murray and Miss Alice Miller were among those who obtained income tax. District Judge Ferguson put his foot down squarely on an attempt to force collection of a paving tax in a certain district where, as was shown to his satisfaction, the preceding city council, under which the procedure took place, the whole transaction was wrong. The trouble was that no attempt had been made to comply with the provisions of the city charter, the judge held, and he did not propose to sanction that sort of business.

Ten Years Ago—
Mr. Mercury was still speeding south, having reached the lower limits of 12 below zero hereabouts and much worse than that out on the wind-swept plains of this and other western states.

Rev. J. P. Lobs of Evanston, Ill., who for many years was a missionary in India, spoke at the First Congregational church. Among other things, he pictured the degraded condition of the Indian women, and told the Omaha women they ought to be thankful for their state and station in life.

In the absence of the pastor, Rev. A. S. Clarke, Rev. A. Rialc preached at Lowe Avenue Presbyterian church, emphasizing the thought of the "new life" as the developer of the soul.

"The country is just full of politics," said W. C. Brookes, a well known Nebraska at the Iler Grand, "and Roosevelt is stronger than ever with the people."

Colonel J. M. Torrey of "Torrey's Rough Riders" of the Spanish-American war, at present manager of the Elkhorn Cattle company, put in Sunday at the Henshaw. Mr. and Mrs. J. N. Jensen, 290 Grand street, lost their little daughter, Florence, 5 years of age.

In Other Lands

Publicity and Grafting.

Americans who hear so little about graft scandals abroad and so much about graft at home naturally conclude that the public service abroad is much freer from taint than our own. The conclusion is without foundation. The reason why foreign countries present a better front of official integrity lies in the fact that the searchlight of publicity, constantly at work in this country, abroad is reduced to a sputtering tallow dip. In England the courts adhere to the rule that "the greater the truth the greater the libel," and in actions for damages the truthfulness of the publication cannot enter into the defendant's plea. Scarcely a week passes that some newspaper is not pinched for damages for telling the truth about some person or institution.

An editor of Yorkshire city, not long ago, was imprisoned in the county gaol against the city administration, although the charges were found to be true. A similar instance occurred in Germany last week when the Cologne editor was condemned, not because his statements were untrue, but because the tone of his articles was insulting to the officials who were shown up as grafters.

The Kripp scandal in Germany last fall was first spread by the press in the Reichstag, and the graft scandal in the commissary department of the army now being stirred in England became public property through official action. Though the foreign editor maintains discreet silence respecting home-made grafters, he indulges in frequent spasms of surprise coupled with moral homilies on official delinquencies in the United States.

An American investigator, replying to a London editor's reflections on Tammany-ism in New York, offered to prove that civic corruption was far more general in London than in New York. But the challenge was silently passed up. In some respects, possibly, things are better ordered abroad, but official integrity in this country, discreditable as it is in spots, is in all respects superior to the foreign brand.

British Politics.
Andrew Bonar Law, unionist party leader, announces the failure of the conference between himself and Premier Asquith brought about with a view to effecting a settlement of the Irish home rule dispute by common consent. When the prime minister a month ago expressed a readiness for a conference and he made it clear that the fundamental principle of home rule should be conceded as the first step to compromise on the details of operation. The unionist leader's terms to the prime minister were the exclusion of Ulster from the operation of the home rule bill or the dissolution of Parliament. Either proposition was beyond the range of serious discussion, and their submission produced the result intended. Failure was written on them in advance.

Mr. Asquith contended all along that to leave Ulster out would make home rule unworkable as well as absolutely unacceptable in principle. Dissolution is the goal sought by the unionists and all efforts are bent to bring about the overthrow of the ministry before Parliament expires by limitation. In that direction alone lies not only the hope of restoration to power, but also the defeat of home rule, Welsh disestablishment and the abolition of the plural vote.

Mr. Asquith's cabinet are to become laws automatically under the act of Parliament during the life of the present Parliament. Meanwhile the unionist press agents are feeding this country with stories of great embarrassment looming up ahead of the ministry—stories of divided councils, of liberal party splits, and minute details of the preparations for armed resistance to home rule in Ulster. Similar political dope has burdened the cables regularly for four years past, yet the Asquith ministry still lives and thrives and presses forward regardless of obstruction to the goal of human betterment.

A Champion of Justice.
General Marie-Georges Picquart, commander of the Second French army corps, whose death is announced, ranks high among the valiant champions of truth and justice in our time. As the defender and chief savior of Captain Dreyfus he challenged not only national-wide race animosity, but the seemingly invincible power of the military leaders of France, and into the contest he threw his resources, energies, position and risked his life. General Picquart knew Dreyfus as a student, but was not intimate with him; on the contrary he rather disliked him, and that feeling was treated by his superior, the chief of the court-martial which fixed on Dreyfus a living death in the Devil's Island. In 1895, while in charge of the army secret service bureau, Picquart discovered the famous "petit bleu," the document which ultimately led to the detection of Esterhazy and the whole series of forged documents upon which the prosecution was founded. Instantly the compromised military chiefs jumped on Picquart. He was ordered to resign, court-martialed on trumped up charges, convicted and imprisoned. After three years of persecution by army chiefs Picquart succeeded in getting his case into the civil courts, where his revelations tore into shreds the whole fabric of the Dreyfus conspiracy. Not only was Captain Dreyfus vindicated and restored to the army, but General Picquart's magnificent file for integrity and justice shone through him as a hero. France honored him with the highest military positions, where he acquitted himself admirably.

Sweden's Old Age Insurance.
Sweden signaled the new year by putting into operation a compulsory old age insurance law. The law requires every citizen, man or woman, to contribute to the insurance fund from his or her sixteenth to the sixty-fourth year. The state also contributes to the fund. Each citizen's pension is proportioned according to the amount of his or her yearly dues. Thus the system makes for thriftiness in contributions, inasmuch as the prize of the old-age pension depends on each individual's liberality in working years. The importance of providing a national fund for old age can be measured by the fact that there are in Sweden 254,000 heads of families with a yearly income below \$12.50.

Ancient Thrillers Outlashed.
Philadelphia Record.
"Beyond the Alps lies Italy," historic fable credits Napoleon with saying as he led his army across those snow-capped mountains in midwinter. Now an aviator flies across the same barriers in a few hours during a heavy fog, and nobody gives the feat more than passing notice. Napoleon was after loot, and the aviator after fame. The Alps do not cut so much ice now as they did 120 years ago.

The Bee's Letter Box

Think Before You Spit.

OMAHA, Jan. 22.—To the Editor of the Bee: We hear numerous comments regarding the condition of our street cars and sidewalks made filthy and unsanitary by the careless and continuous spitter. Our street cars are, as a rule, in fairly sanitary condition, but could be improved if the street car company could be induced to put one sign in each end of the car in large, plain letters, at some place much lower than they are now.

Signs should be stenciled on many of the posts and poles in the downtown district (I do not think any company owning them would object). "No Spitting on Walks, Spits in the Gutter." Conductors and policemen, when they see the law violated, should call the spitters' attention to the sign. Man is the only spitting animal and those who are not neat, should be told.

If the woman's club or the Red Cross society, who are working against the spread of consumption, would work out a plan along these lines, even if they were to spend the money received from the sale of stamps during holidays, in having this done (it would not cost much) I am confident it would have a marked effect.

An ounce of prevention is worth a pound of cure.
Will some woman bring this before her club.
E. H. H.

How to Clean Up.
OMAHA, Neb., Jan. 22.—To the Editor of the Bee: After reading the Savidge's discourse on "The Scarlet Women of Omaha," and his suggestion, to wit, "If I had my way, I would put them in one place and on all streets leading to this place I would post this sign: 'Here is the road to hell; go to it!'" not a bad suggestion, I'll admit, but as an amendment to his, I would put all saloons, gambling dens, pool halls and pool tables there, and put up a sign, borrowed from the scriptures: "Behold, the Gates of Hell and the Pillars thereof."

Keep away from them and they won't exist. No drunkard ever became a drunkard all at once. No criminal who ever paid the penalty of his crime but what can point to the road that led him to his or her downfall. When the devil was kicked out of heaven he swore to be an enemy to man. How well he has kept that promise all of us can testify by experience and observation.

To my mind, the pool hall is a criminal incubator for the boy; the common dance hall is responsible for the downfall of many young, innocent girls. Yet they flourish all over our city, with little or no restraint. Political and commercial trickery is leading the nation a long way off from the Biblical admonition, "Righteousness exalteth a nation"; but it gets there when it says "Sin is a reproach to any people."

Every good citizen must demand better conditions and see to it that he gets it now; and the future demands it.
But still, I do not expect to see any permanent, good, honest administration of our municipal affairs until we have a law which will disfranchise the grafter or the delinquent in office, as I do not think it would require a fine-tooth comb to catch one or more of our city officials now.
S. C. MALLIN.

Merited Reward.
New York World: The nomination of Colonel Gorgas as surgeon general of the army not only fulfills expectation, but so satisfies the practically universal wish that no criticism of it is likely. Nearly twenty years in the army medical corps has qualified Colonel Gorgas by length and variety of experience; his triumphs in Panama commend him by conspicuous value of service.

Philadelphia Record: Colonel Gorgas deserved the nomination for surgeon general of the army by his services in the sanitation of Havana and in the greater and more difficult task of making the construction and maintenance of the Panama canal a possibility through the conversion of one of the unhealthiest fever-ridden regions of the world into a salubrious place of residence. Colonel Gorgas was entitled to his new post by the rule of seniority; but his appointment was for conspicuous merit.

New York Tribune: Nor should it be forgotten that Colonel Gorgas is not, after all, any unique phenomenon, but rather merely a distinguished example of the capacity, devotion and efficiency which abundantly mark that branch of the public service which too many foolishly and unjustly think of as intended merely for the slighting of mankind. His superb achievements—like those of his colleague Colonel Goethals—are to be credited not only to his academic knowledge and professional skill, but also in a marked degree to his military training and methods.

Editorial Snapshots.
Cleveland Plain Dealer: The New York papers tell us that city employes there have left nearly \$200,000 of uncollected salaries and wages in the city treasury since 1887. Did carelessness ever take a more amazing form?

Boston Transcript: Congressman Clayton, who holds the long-distance after-dinner-speech Marathon record, will lead the anti-trust fight in the house, indicating that there will be a few words spilled down there in Washington before long.

Baltimore American: The king of Bulgaria dissolved his Parliament because the members refused to vote an appropriation wanted. This summary way of dealing with self-willed legislatures must rouse envy in this country from administrative standpoints.

New York Post: The wide approval in Canada of the government's announcement that it would temporarily abandon the bill for a \$25,000,000 naval appropriation marks a triumph of popular sentiment. For one thing, the opening of parliament sees the country anxious to deal with fiscal matters, the tariff, and the redistribution of seats in the house; for another, every effort to arouse enthusiasm for an imperial navy, as by the visit of the battle-cruiser New Zealand, has signally failed.

Lines to a Laugh.
"General, I wish you wouldn't pursue these troops too fiercely."
"But, your majesty, we are making history."
"Well, let us make it as pleasant as possible."—Cincinnati Enquirer.

A DUO IN HADES.
Chicago Tribune.
"Everything depends on the point of view—even the weather."
"How do you make that out?"
"All weather is fair weather to a street car conductor, or foul weather to a poultry man."—Baltimore American.

"But, my dear, everything will be so cramped."
"Nonsequens, George. It's a dear little place. We can stand the ice box on the fire escape, eat off the sewing machine, and put the piano, the bookcase and the kitchenette in the fireplace. We mustn't lose it, George."—Cleveland Plain Dealer.

Gibbs—I believe in early rising, don't you?
Dibbs—Well, there's no abstract excellence in early rising; it all depends on "What's that?"
"You can hire good actors for the same price you'd have to pay poor ones."—Cleveland Plain Dealer.

"A good resolution," said Secretary Bryan to a rich young congressman.
"Will, I'd suggest, as a good resolution for the average young man of wealth, a swear-off from the stock exchange."
"The stock exchange, you know, might be defined as the place where hope is exchanged for experience."—New York Times.

"The Chinese are ancestor worshippers."
"Will," replied Senator Sorghum, "we're not altogether free from that tendency. We can't help having a certain special regard for a man who wears his whiskers so as to make him look like Abraham Lincoln."—Washington Star.

Adam:
Thousands of years, my dear, have ebbed away.
Since that forever memorable day When you discovered the Forbidden Fruit,
And, knowing I should like it, led me to it.

Eve:
And willingly you went, as I recall,
And of course, they blamed me for the Fall.
Till that momentous day our life was X;
We ate the apple, and discovered—Sex!

Adam:
And both, as I recall, were tickled pink,
And talked of nothing else. I myself think
We sinned so much that God himself was bored,
And sent an Angel with a flaming sword.

Eve:
I spoke today with one but newly come,
He tells me that the world is all a hum
With the self-same discovery that we
In Eden made, beneath the Knowledge Tree.

Adam:
They gab of Sex, and Sex, and Sex, and Sex,
In books, and plays, and art this subject rules;
I'm told they even teach it in the schools.

Eve:
The shade but newly-come to Hades bathed
That men of sense are being bored to death;
And tho' he's damned he counts himself as blessed
To scape from Sex, and have eternal rest.

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